

**4 Corners Air Quality Task Force  
Oil & Gas Work Group  
February 8, 2006**

**Participants:**

Brittany Benko, BP America; Robin Blanchard, SJCA; Michael Brand, Product Environmental Management - Stationary Applications Director, Cummins; Brian Bromelou (observer), San Juan Basin Health Department; David Brown, Manager, Regulatory Affairs - Health, Safety & Environment, BP America; Franking Brown, AKW Energy Group (SUIT); Angie Buchanan(w/Brett S.), La Plata County; Cynthia Cody, Manager, Air Quality Planning and Management Unit, US EPA Region 8; Jim Cue, Caterpillar, Inc.; Mark Dalton, Samson Resources Co.; Chad Englehardt (observer), San Juan Basin Health Department; Don Fernald, Enterprise Products Operating LP; Bruce Gantner, Burlington Resources; Bob Gonzalez, Caterpillar, Inc.; Christi Gordon, US Forest Service/Southwestern Region; Lyndon Harrison, XTO Energy; Ethan Hinkley, Southern Ute; Bob Jorgenson, Colorado Dept. of Public Health & Environment; Chad King, Giant Bloomfield Refinery; Jan Neleigh; Michael Nelson, Conoco Phillips Co.; Bill Papich, BLM; Jim Ramakka, Bureau of Land Management, Farmington Field Office; Curtis Rueter, Noble Energy, Inc.; Rick Sanchez; David Schneck, San Miguel Co. Environmental Health Dept.; Ted Schooley, NSR Section Manager, New Mexico Environment Department; Runell Seale, Enterprise Products Operations LLC; Kelly Skelton, Energen Resources Inc.; Lisa Sumi, Oil and Gas Accountability Project; Dale Wirth, Renewable Resource Team Soil Conservationist, Bureau of Land Management, Farmington Field Office; Christi Zeller, (observer), La Plata County Energy Council; Bruce Beynon, Chevron

Bob Jorgensen, Group Coordinator; Bill Papich, Note Taker

**Open & Introductions**

Bob Jorgensen opened the meeting by introducing himself and providing some of his background. Round-the-table introductions of all participants followed.

Jorgensen reminded the group that the work schedule following this meeting will include one conference call per month and four meetings per year, for two years.

**Work Group Charter**

To assist the group in determining where to start in developing mitigation options, Jorgensen presented the following list of possible oil and gas sources for the group to address.

- Oil and gas exploration (including flow back and proving wells)
- Condensate tanks (including general liquid handling, condensate, oil, storage of liquids)
- Gas processing plants (including compressor stations)
- Dehydration

- Amine absorbers
- Drilling rig emissions
- Engine emissions
- Coalbed methane
- Rework well
- Refineries

Discussion:

The charter does not specify what air quality problems the group is to solve, whether it be ozone, visibility, whatever.

Other air quality issues were added to the list by the group, including:

- ☐ Venting at gas well sites, when fluids build up
- ☐ Fugitive emissions (i.e., those from day-to-day operations that include leaky valves, etc.)
- ☐ Exploration on the above list could include the drilling of exploratory wells and the blow-back associated with well completion operations
- ☐ Completion operation
- ☐ Insulating vessels (energy efficiency)
- ☐ Visibility
- ☐ Ozone (already being addressed by the Ozone Task Force?)
- ☐ Sulfur Dioxide Emissions
- ☐ NOx
- ☐ Public Health
- ☐ Atmospheric Deposition
- ☐ Greenhouse gases
- ☐ Hydrogen Sulfide
- ☐ Fleet Vehicle Emissions

Jorgenson clarified that the list the group was developing would likely change as the group delved into the actual development of the options. Developing a list at this point is to give the group some structure and a way to organize its work. It was agreed that the group needs some kind of system to work by in order to get a handle on things. Other suggestions for how to organize the work included:

Having volunteers for particular topics so all items could be moved forward on a parallel basis.

Assigning so many topics a month and everybody could prepare certain information on each topic.

Developing Work Group Priorities It was agreed that in order to make best use of the group's time, some priorities should be established to guide the group's work. These were listed: ozone, public health, visibility, atmospheric deposition, greenhouse gases, NOx increment and impacts of pollution on local economies. It was further suggested

that the group consider rating issues as high, medium or low as a way to determine relative interest for each, and then assign subgroups to address these.

Action Item: Develop a Matrix of the source categories and the air quality issues for everyone to rank in importance. Bruce Gantner volunteered to develop the matrix and send it to Bob, who will circulate to the work group for input. Bob will collate the group's input for review on the first conference call.

#### Other Issues:

The question was raised of whether the group would be considering mandatory rules and regulations for the energy industry or voluntary measures. Jorgensen replied that the group would decide for each mitigation option developed whether it should be mandatory or voluntary.

It was noted that in developing the mitigation options, impacts to local economies and technological impacts need to be evaluated. Economics of the mitigation options need also to be considered.

#### Data Needs Discussion:

- ☐ An inventory is needed and should be compiled by people with access to data.
- ☐ Some hesitation to get too far down the road with an inventory; the group needs time to come up with a strategy first.
- ☐ Argonne will be contacting companies and coming up with a robust inventory.
- ☐ Some wanted to be sure that the group was addressing the correct pollutants.
- ☐ There is conflicting information related to air quality and different kinds of modeling.
- ☐ There are still many factors to air quality that nobody knows anything about.
- ☐ Use whatever existing information is already available so we do not reinvent the wheel.

#### **Work Group Conference Call Schedule**

Standing time: 1<sup>st</sup> Wed of the month, 2 p.m.

First Call: Wed., March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2 pm

Call Agenda: Review of the Matrix to be developed between now and the first call.  
Decide on which issues the group will address and how.